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February 27, 2002

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10/083583
02/27/02

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: Application of **Mitsuo OCHI, Junji IWASA, Masatoshi TOBITA, Masakazu KATOH, Takeyuki YAMAMOTO, Rika FUKUSHIMA, and Toyokazu KURUSHIMA**
METHOD FOR MEASURING STIFFNESS OF CULTURED TISSUE, FOR DETERMINING TRANSPLANT COMPATIBILITY FOR QUALITY CONTROL AND FOR PREPARING TRANSPLANT-COMPATIBLE CULTURED TISSUE
Assignee: **IMITSUO OCHI and JAPAN TISSUE ENGINEERING CO., LTD.**
Our Ref: **Q68602**

Dear Sir:

This is a request for a Continuation-in-Part Application of pending prior Application No. 09/934,581 (Confirmation No. 7885) filed August 23, 2001 of Mitsuo OCHI, Junji IWASA, Masatoshi TOBITA, Masakazu KATOH, Takeyuki YAMAMOTO, Rika FUKUSHIMA, and Toyokazu KURUSHIMA entitled **METHOD FOR MEASURING STIFFNESS OF CULTURED TISSUE, FOR DETERMINING TRANSPLANT COMPATIBILITY FOR QUALITY CONTROL AND FOR PREPARING TRANSPLANT-COMPATIBLE CULTURED TISSUE**.

Attached hereto is the Continuation-in-Part Application comprising the specification, including the claims and abstract, 5 sheets of drawings, executed Declaration and Power of Attorney, executed Assignment and PTO 1595 form, Information Disclosure Statement and PTO form 1449, and a Preliminary Amendment.

The first priority document (Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-043935 dated February 20, 2001) was submitted in parent Application No. 09/934,581. The additional priority document (Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-012628 dated January 22, 2002) will be submitted at a later date.

Applicant claims benefit of small entity status in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.27.



Commissioner for Patents
February 27, 2002
Page 2

The Government filing fee is calculated as follows (**Small Entity fees apply**):

Total claims	<u>11</u>	-	<u>20</u>	=	x \$9.00	=	\$0.00
Independent claims	<u>3</u>	-	<u>3</u>	=	x \$42.00	=	\$0.00
Base Fee							\$370.00
Multiple Dependent Claim Fee							\$0.00
TOTAL FILING FEE							<u>\$370.00</u>
Recordation of Assignment							<u>\$ 40.00</u>
TOTAL FEE							<u>\$410.00</u>

Checks for the statutory filing fee of \$370.00 and Assignment recordation fee of \$40.00 are attached. You are also directed and authorized to charge or credit any difference or overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 and any petitions for extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

Priority is claimed from:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Application No</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
Japan	2001-043935	February 20, 2001
Japan	2002-012628	January 22, 2002

The application is timely filed.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Attorneys for Applicant

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